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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/909,953	07/19/2001	Tessema Dosho Shifferaw	A-70737/ESW	2460
40461	7590	02/11/2005	EXAMINER	
EDWARD S. WRIGHT 1100 ALMA STREET, SUITE 207 MENLO PARK, CA 94025			RICHMAN, GLENN E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3764	
DATE MAILED: 02/11/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/909,953	SHIFFERAW, TESSEMA DOSHO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Glenn Richman	3764	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 October 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 10-12 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 and 13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

In view of the Appeal Brief filed on 10/12/04, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. *A new ground of rejection is set forth below.*

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,

(2) request reinstatement of the appeal.

If reinstatement of the appeal is requested, such request must be accompanied by a supplemental appeal brief, but no new amendments, affidavits (37 CFR 1.130, 1.131 or 1.132) or other evidence are permitted. See 37 CFR 1.193(b)(2).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Graham.

Graham discloses a horizontally extending platform for receiving an exerciser (21, fig. 3, horizontal when lifted), an upright post mounted on the platform (18, fig. 3), a carriage which can be moved along the post in upward and downward directions by the exerciser (10), and a plurality of elastic elements which can be selectively connected to

Art Unit: 3764

the carriage to assist or resist movement of the carriage in the upward and downward directions (76).

Graham further discloses the carriage includes a backrest for receiving the back of the exerciser on the platform (col. 5, lines 21-35), the post is inclined at an angle relative to the platform (fig. 1, 90 deg) a plurality of rollers which mount the carriage to the post for rolling movement along the post (11, 12), the elastic elements are bungee cords (col. 4, lines 60-63).

As for claim 8 and 9, Graham further discloses a horizontally extending platform for receiving an exerciser (21), an upright post mounted on the platform (18), a carriage which can be moved along the post in upward and downward directions by the exerciser (10), horizontally extending arms affixed to the post above (22) and below the carriage (21), and a plurality of elastic elements which can be selectively connected between the carriage and the arms to assist or resist movement of the carriage in the upward and downward directions (col. 5, lines 3-20), bungee cords (col. 4, lines 60-63).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Art Unit: 3764

Claims 3, 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Graham in view of Sokol.

Graham does not disclose the carriage includes a handle adapted to be gripped by the exerciser.

Sokol discloses a carriage including a handle adapted to be gripped by the exerciser (251).

It would have been obvious to use Sokol's handles with Graham's carriage, as it is well known, as taught by Sokol, to use handles with a slidable carriage, for a user to grip, and as Graham discloses handles used for moving said carriage.

Sokol further disclose a post (151) and the platform is adjustable (col. 6, lines 1-21).

Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Graham.

Graham does not specifically disclose the platform is adapted to rest on a horizontally extending supporting surface, and the post is supported by the platform, however, given the adjustable angles shown in figure 3, it would be obvious to have Graham's platform resting on a horizontal surface, i.e., the floor, with the post supported therefrom, for further increasing the angle given in figure 3.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 10-12 are allowed.

Art Unit: 3764

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Glenn Richman whose telephone number is 571-272-4981. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Glenn Richman
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3764